

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

## Officer Involved Shooting

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Report Date: 02/26/10		Bureau/Station/Facility: FOR III		Admin. Invest? <input type="checkbox"/>		Hit? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Incident Information</b>							
URN: 010-04887-1349-013		Date: 02/26/10		Time: 0429 hours			
City or Station: Artesia Ca.		Nature of Incident: Deputy Alvarado conducted a traffic stop of a White Tahoe on Norwalk Blvd & Cambrian Street. He had the passenger exit and he was detained by a back-up unit. As they were conducting an investigation, the passenger fled on foot. The driver started the vehicle and attempted to run over Deputy Alvarado. Fearing for his safety, he fired three rounds from his duty weapon before the vehicle sped away. The driver was located in the Lennox Station's area inside his vehicle suffering from two gun shot wounds. He was transported to a local hospital.					
Location: Norwalk Boulevard @ Cambrian Street							
Location Type (circle one or more): Backyard Beach Business Freeway Industrial Park Parking Lot Residence Rural School <u>Street</u> Other: _____		Lighting (circle only one): <u>Darkness</u> Daylight Other Street Lights		Incident Type (circle one or more): Accidental Armed Person <u>Fleeing Suspect</u> Foot Pursuit Gun Take Away Moving Vehicle Sniper/Ambush Stunt <u>Struggle Involved</u> <u>Traffic Stop</u> Unarmed Person Unintentional Vehicle Pursuit Warrant Service Warning Shot Other: _____		Initiated by (circle only one): Arrest Warrant Call <u>Observation</u> One Person Unit Other Search Warrant Two Person Unit	
		Weather (circle only one): <u>Clear</u> Cloudy Fog Rain				Prior Activity (circle only one): Detective Inmate Transport Other <u>Routine Patrol</u>	
		Distance: 5-10 feet					
		Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy: 3				Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect: 0	
<b>Employee Witnesses</b>							
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one):		Shift Type (circle only one):	
	Mack	Peter	J.	<u>EM</u> PM Day		<u>Regular</u> Overtime Off Duty	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one):		Shift Type (circle only one):	
				EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	Shift Time (circle only one):		Shift Type (circle only one):	
				EM PM Day		Regular Overtime Off Duty	
<b>Non-Employee Witnesses</b>							
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
Last Name		First Name		M.I.			
Street Address		City		Zip Code		Work Ph Home Ph	
<b>Supervisors</b>							
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more):		Witness to shooting	
	McDonald	Edward	J.	<u>On Duty</u> Present during shooting		Involved in shooting	
Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.	(circle one or more):		Witness to shooting	
				On Duty Present during shooting		Involved in shooting	
<b>Watch Sergeant</b>							
Employee #	Last Name	First Name		M.I.			
<b>Watch Commander</b>							
Employee #	Last Name	First Name		M.I.			
	Camarillo	Dana		L.			

PSTD Use Only	
SH # _____	

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### Shooting / Force Information

**Body Part Injured**

(AD)	Abdomen
(AK)	Ankle
(AR)	Arm
(BK)	Back
(BT)	Buttocks
(CH)	Chest
(EL)	Elbow
(FA)	Face
(FE)	Feet
(FI)	Fingers
(GE)	Genitals
(GR)	Groin
(HD)	Hand
(HE)	Head
(HI)	Hip
(IN)	Internal
(KN)	Knees
(LE)	Leg
(NK)	Neck
(SH)	Shoulder
(WR)	Wrist

## (NN) NONE

(9) 9 mm	(24) .243 caliber	(41) .410 gauge
(10) 10 mm	(25) .25 caliber	(44) .44 caliber
(12) 12 gauge	(30) .308 caliber	(45) .45 caliber
(20) 20 gauge	(35) .357 caliber	(50) 50 mm
(21) .22-250	(36) 30-60 caliber	(SL) Slug
(22) .22 caliber	(38) .38 caliber	(WWW) Other caliber
(23) .223 caliber	(40) .40 caliber	

[illegible]

# Officer Involved Shooting Involved Employee Information

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## Involved Employee

<b>E</b>	<b>1</b>	Employee #	Last Name <b>Alvarado</b>	First Name <b>Benjamin</b>	M.I. <b>J.</b>
		Sex: <b>M</b>	Race: <b>H.</b>	Rank <b>Deputy Sheriff</b>	Unit Assignment: <b>Lakewood</b>
		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.): <b>134</b>			
		ShiftTime (circle only one): <b>EM</b> PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): <b>Regular</b> Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Substance Used:			
		Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Hrs of sleep prior to shooting: <b>Unknown</b>	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (circle only one):	
				Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Raid Jacket w/ Vest</b>	
				Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
				Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Age: <b>505</b>	Height: <b>180</b>	Weight: <b>180</b>	
		Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
		Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of Prior Shootings: <b>1</b>
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

  

<b>E</b>	<b></b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
		Sex:	Race:	Rank	Unit Assignment:
		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):			
		ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Substance Used:			
		Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (circle only one):	
				Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Raid Jacket w/ Vest</b>	
				Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
				Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Age:	Height:	Weight:	
		Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
		Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/> Number of Prior Shootings:
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

  

<b>E</b>	<b></b>	Employee #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
		Sex:	Race:	Rank	Unit Assignment:
		Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.):			
		ShiftTime (circle only one): EM PM Day	ShiftType (circle only one): Regular Overtime Off Duty	Intoxication/Drug Usage? <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Substance Used:			
		Hospital Admission? <input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital Name:	Coroner Case? <input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #
		Interviewed? <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Hrs of sleep prior to shooting:	Duty Time (hrs):	Clothing (circle only one):	
				Plain Clothes no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Raid Jacket w/ Vest</b>	
				Plain Clothes w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform no Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
				Raid Jacket no Vest <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform w/ Vest <input type="checkbox"/>	
		Age:	Height:	Weight:	
		Range Qualification Date:		PPC Qualification Date:	Laser Training Date:
		Certified with Weapon Used? <input type="checkbox"/>	Patrol Certification? <input type="checkbox"/>	Certification Unit:	Prior Shootings? <input type="checkbox"/> Number of Prior Shootings:
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.
		Field Training Officer Emp #	Last Name	First Name	M.I.

# Officer Involved Shooting Suspect Information

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## Suspect Information

<b>S 1</b>	Last Name Thompson		First Name Darren		M.I. G.
AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Sex: M	Race: Black	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	N/A	Home Phone:	N/A	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: 35	D.O.B. 08-25-75	Height: 6-00	Weight: 200	FBI #	Cell #
Booking #	N/A	Primary Charge: 245 (c) P.C.		Secondary Charge: 459 P.C.	
Coroner Case?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Armed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle Make	Chevrolet		Model:	Tahoe	
			Year:	2004	

<b>S 2</b>	Last Name Cooper		First Name Shawn		M.I. B.
AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Tank					
Sex: M	Race: W	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:	N/A	Home Phone:	N/A	Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age: 29	D.O.B. 12-19-80	Height: 510	Weight: 200	FBI #	Cell #
Booking #	N/A	Primary Charge: 245 (c) P.C.		Secondary Charge: 459 P.C.	
Coroner Case?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Armed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle Make	N/A		Model:	Year:	

<b>S</b>	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age:	D.O.B.	Height:	Weight:	FBI #	Cell #
Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Armed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle Make			Model:	Year:	

<b>S</b>	Last Name		First Name		M.I.
AKA Last Name		First Name		M.I.	
Sex:	Race:	Street Address:		City	State & Zip Code:
Work Phone:		Home Phone:		Social Security #:	Driver's License #:
Age:	D.O.B.	Height:	Weight:	FBI #	Cell #
Booking #		Primary Charge:		Secondary Charge:	
Coroner Case?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coroner Case #	Intoxication/Drug Usage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Armed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Apprehended?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vehicle Make			Model:	Year:	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**DEPUTY INVOLVED SHOOTING - HIT**

**IAB FILE NUMBER:       SH2261796**

**URN #:                   010-04887-1349-055**

**OPENING STATEMENT:**

On February 26, 2010, Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Jack Ramirez and Jimmy Rios responded to Norwalk Boulevard and Cambrian Court in the City of Artesia, regarding a deputy involved in a hit shooting. Internal Affairs Bureau Lieutenant Scott Brickert also responded. Rob Miller of the Office of Independent Review was notified and responded. Sean Hossett and Leigh Ann Femstrom from the District Attorney's Office also responded. Deputy Roman Castillo assigned to TAS responded to the scene.

On February 26, 2010, at approximately 0430 hours, Deputy Benjamin Alvarado assigned to the Lakewood Sheriff's Station and Deputy Peter Mack assigned to the Cerritos Sheriff's Station, were driving in their patrol cars south on Norwalk Boulevard approaching South Street, when they saw a white Chevy Tahoe turn south on Norwalk Boulevard from South Street. The driver of the Tahoe seemed to have trouble making the turn and failed to come to a complete stop. Deputy Mack conducted a traffic stop for the traffic violation, and Deputy Alvarado stopped to back him up.

Both Deputies contacted the vehicle's occupants and discovered both of the occupants had a suspended driver's license. They had the passenger (later identified as Suspect Cooper) exit the vehicle and Deputy Mack detained him next to his radio car, which was parked behind the suspect's vehicle. Deputy Alvarado remained at the Tahoe and continued to talk to the driver (later identified as Suspect Thompson). During his exchange with the driver, Deputy Alvarado became aware of a burglary alarm call at "Kare Pharmacy" at 12146 South Street, which is very close to where the deputies had made the traffic stop.

As Deputy Alvarado continued talking to Suspect Thompson, he saw evidence inside the vehicle, which indicated the occupants were possibly connected to the burglary. He motioned to Deputy Mack to detain Suspect Cooper in the back of his patrol car.

**INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**IAB # SH2261796**

As Deputy Mack attempted to control the hands of Suspect Cooper, so he could search him, he struggled with him and broke free. Suspect Cooper ran north on Norwalk Boulevard back toward South Street. Deputy Mack followed Suspect Cooper for approximately four to five steps, but stopped and turned back toward the Tahoe to assist Deputy Alvarado.

Deputy Alvarado immediately put out emergency radio traffic that a burglary suspect was running north on Norwalk Boulevard. At this point, Suspect Thompson started the Tahoe and turned the wheel toward Deputy Alvarado. Deputy Alvarado was standing slightly forward and adjacent to the driver's door. He ordered the suspect to stop, but he accelerated toward Deputy Alvarado. Deputy Alvarado, fearing the suspect would run him over, fired three rounds from his duty weapon. After being fired at, the suspect straightened out the Tahoe and drove south on Norwalk Boulevard out of view.

The Deputies searched for Suspect Cooper, but did not locate him. Deputies traced the Tahoe to an address in the Lennox Station area. Deputies from the Lennox Sheriff's Station went to the address and located Suspect Thompson sitting in the Tahoe, which was parked nearby. He was taken into custody without incident.

Suspect Thompson had sustained two gunshot wounds to the upper torso. He was transported to Harbor General Medical Center, where he was listed as being in critical condition. No deputies were injured during this incident.

It was later determined the suspects had in fact burglarized the pharmacy, which is a short distance from the shooting scene.

The following review is based on written documentation, interviews of witnesses, and involved deputies.

#### **INVOLVED PERSONNEL:**

**ALVARADO, Benjamin**, Deputy Sheriff, # [REDACTED]  
Lakewood Station, Field Operations Region III

#### **EMPLOYEE WORK HISTORY:**

Date of Employment:	July 14, 2005
Date assigned to Patrol:	[REDACTED]
Completed Patrol Training:	[REDACTED]
Prior Shooting Incidents:	(1) 07-24-2009, LKD, SH2249118, Armed Person



**SUSPECTS:**

**THOMPSON, Darren Gerard, MB/34, DOB: 08-25-75, 5'10", 185 lbs., Black/Brown**

**CII:** [REDACTED] **FBI:** [REDACTED]

Suspect Thompson's criminal [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Refer to Exhibit B, Pages 58 Thru Pages 77 of the Homicide Book for Suspect Thompson's Criminal History.**

**COOPER, Shawn Bradley, MW/24, DOB: 12-19-80, 5'10", 210 lbs., Brown/Blue**

**CII:** [REDACTED] **FBI:** [REDACTED]

Suspect Cooper's criminal history [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Refer to Exhibit B, Pages 78 Thru Pages 102 of the Homicide Book for Suspect Cooper's Criminal History.**

**INVOLVED DEPUTY WITNESSES:**

**Mack, Peter**, Deputy Sheriff, Employee # [REDACTED]  
Cerritos Sheriff's Station  
Field Operations III

**NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESSES:**

None

## **INJURIES:**

### **Suspect:**

Suspect Thompson was transported to Harbor General Medical Center, where he was treated by Doctor Gregorian. Doctor Gregorian said the suspect had two bullet wounds. The first wound entered into his left upper back and exited through his chest. Regarding the second wound, the bullet entered into his left shoulder and lodged there. Doctor Gregorian said the second round severed an artery and "nicked" some of the nerves, which are located in the shoulder and upper arm. He concluded by saying the second wound fractured the scapula bone in his arm.

**IAB NOTE:** Refer to Exhibit A, page 10 of the Homicide Book for Deputy Vandenberg's supplementary report and interview with Doctor Gregorian.

### **Deputy Personnel:**

No deputy personnel were injured.

## **PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:**

Refer to the Homicide Book pages 103 Thru 115 for Scientific Services scene processing, and evidence recovered.

## **INVESTIGATOR OBSERVATIONS:**

None

## **WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:**

### **Deputy Benjamin Alvarado**

**Service Weapon** - Beretta 92F (Serial Number BER [REDACTED]), Double Action Semi-Automatic Pistol, 9mm luger

**Type Of Ammunition** - Winchester Range SXT 9mm Luger Ammunition.

**Ammunition** - Three rounds fired and Thirteen left in the magazine.

**Shell Casings** - Three 9mm caliber shell casings were located at the scene.

**Date Employee Last Qualified:** [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

**Date Last Trained With Weapon:** [REDACTED]

All weapons were examined, test fired, and found to be functional by Firearms Examiner, Robert D. Keil # [REDACTED]. **Lab Receipt Number K177289**, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - Scientific Services Bureau, Firearms Identification Section (Refer to Exhibit A, Page #111 )

## **INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

**IAB # SH2261796**



**WEAPON(S) USED BY SUSPECT:**

Vehicle used as weapon, 2004, white, Chevrolet Tahoe, CA License # [REDACTED].

**PROPERTY DAMAGE:**

None

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR and CHARGES FILED:**

Investigator: Homicide Investigators Kevin Lowe and Ralph Hernandez  
Court: Bellflower Court  
Charges Filed: (2) Felony Arrest Warrants for 245 © P.C. & 459 P.C., filed against both suspects. Case #VA114342.  
Court Case Status: Pending

**WEATHER AND LIGHTING CONDITIONS:**

This incident occurred during darkness. The weather was cool.

**INVOLVED DEPUTY STATEMENTS:**

**Benjamin Alvarado, Deputy, # [REDACTED]**, was interviewed by Sergeants Jack Ramirez and Jimmy Rios of Internal Affairs Bureau, August 18, 2010, at approximately 1045 hours. The interview is summarized as follows;

Deputy Alvarado was working Unit 134 on the early morning shift on 02-26-10. While driving south on Norwalk Boulevard he saw Deputy Mack, also traveling south beside him. As they continued to drive south on Norwalk Boulevard, he saw Deputy Mack make a traffic stop on a white Chevrolet Tahoe. The traffic stop was at Norwalk Boulevard and Cambrian Court in the City of Artesia.

Deputy Alvarado stopped to assist Deputy Mack on the traffic stop. Deputy Mack approached the Tahoe on the driver's side, while he approached on the passenger side. Deputy Mack spoke to the driver (later identified as Suspect Darren Thompson) and he spoke to the passenger (later identified as Suspect Shawn Cooper). Deputy Mack walked back to his patrol car in order to write the driver a citation.

Deputy Alvarado started to talk with both of occupants of the Tahoe, when Suspect Thompson told him (Alvarado) he had located his registration and insurance information. He walked back to where Deputy Mack was and handed him the paper work that Suspect Thompson had given him.

At that point, he told Deputy Mack he was going to enter a call into his MDT that he was assisting him. When he walked back to his patrol car, he saw he had received a call on his MDT. The call was a Burglary audible alarm call at the "Kare Pharmacy," located around the corner from where they had stopped the Tahoe. He walked back to Deputy Mack and advised him about the audible call he had received around the corner. He asked Deputy Mack if he had seen where the Tahoe had come from. Deputy Mack told him the car was already driving east on South street when he initially saw it.

He told Deputy Mack the occupants of the Tahoe were not from the area. He told Deputy Mack, his partner, Deputy Bryant, was going to respond to the "Kare Pharmacy" to investigate further. He said Deputy Bryant re-contacted him on L-TAC a short while later, telling him (Alvarado) they had a confirmed burglary at the "Kare Pharmacy."

At that point, he was already standing back at the passenger side of the Tahoe. Deputy Mack told him to send back the passenger, Suspect Cooper. He had Suspect Cooper exit the Tahoe and he walked him back toward Deputy Mack, which was near the front of his patrol car. He went back to the passenger side of the Tahoe and started talking to Suspect Thompson.

While he was talking to Suspect Thompson, he noticed a trash bag full of prescription bottles on top of the passenger seat and on the floorboard there was another white trash bag. He could not see the contents of the bag on the floor, but it was standing up right behind the driver's seat.

He asked Suspect Thompson what the bag contained. Suspect Thompson said it was some old medicine he had to throw away. He replied to Suspect Thompson, "you have that much?" Suspect Thompson replied, "Yes." Deputy Alvarado said at this point, he is thinking these guys (suspects) may be involved in the burglary, based on what the suspects said about being from out of the area, and all the prescription bottles in the trash bags. He started to walk to the rear of the Tahoe in order to re-position himself at the driver's side of the Tahoe. As he arrived at the rear of the Tahoe, he got Deputy Mack's attention and signaled for him to place Suspect Cooper in the back seat of his unit.

He positioned himself at the driver's door of the Tahoe, approximately just in front of the driver's side mirror. He continued to talk with Suspect Thompson, while he waited for Deputy Mack to place Suspect Thompson in the back seat of his patrol car.

Deputy Alvarado said when Deputy Mack started to search Suspect Cooper, he broke away from Deputy Mack and started running north on Norwalk Boulevard, toward South Street. Deputy Mack took a couple of steps toward Suspect Cooper, then stopped. Deputy Alvarado said at that point, he knew the suspects were involved in the burglary.

He used his radio and put out emergent radio traffic and requested units to respond to their location. He put out Suspect Cooper's description and advised Suspect Cooper was running north on Norwalk Boulevard. He also stated he was detaining the driver at gunpoint. At this point, Suspect Thompson turned on the ignition of the Tahoe. He ordered Suspect Thompson to turn off the ignition. Suspect Thompson looked at him, so he (Alvarado) stepped back. At that point, Suspect Thompson started turning the Tahoe's steering wheel to the left. As he stepped back, Suspect Thompson started to accelerate out. As he was stepping away from the vehicle, he stumbled, and Suspect Thompson proceeded to drive the Tahoe toward him.

He said was in fear for his life, thinking Suspect Thompson was going to run him over with the Tahoe, that is when he fired his duty weapon two times at Suspect Thompson, striking the driver's door of the Tahoe. He said he was standing approximately six inches away from the Tahoe when he fired his weapon. He said there were some street lights, but could not recall exactly where. He said his back drop was a vacant lot and there was no pedestrian or vehicular traffic during the shooting. Deputy Alvarado said the Tahoe got within six inches away from him, but did not strike him. Deputy Alvarado said Suspect Thompson drove away south on Norwalk Boulevard out of view.

He got on the radio and put out that the suspect's vehicle had driven south on Norwalk Boulevard toward 195<sup>th</sup> Street, out of view. He said he knew Deputy Mack was behind him, so there was no cross fire issue.

Homicide Investigators Kevin Lowe and Ralph Hernandez showed Deputy Alvarado photographs of similar appearing individuals and he was able to identify both suspects from the photographs. Refer to Homicide investigative summary.

**IAB NOTE:** Refer to Exhibit A, Homicide Case Book pages 29 and 30 for Homicide's interview. Copies of Homicide Bureau and Internal Affairs Bureau interview transcriptions submitted with this case file.

#### **INVOLVED DEPUTY WITNESS STATEMENT:**

**Peter Mack, Deputy, # [REDACTED]** was interviewed August 18, 2010 at approximately 1000 hours, by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Jack Ramirez and Jimmy Rios. The interview was digitally recorded. The interview is summarized as follows;

On February 26, 2010, he was on patrol, traveling south on Norwalk Boulevard. Deputy Alvarado was also traveling south on Norwalk Boulevard beside him. He conducted a traffic stop on a white Chevrolet Tahoe for vehicle code violations in the area of Norwalk Boulevard and Cambrian Court.

As he made the traffic stop, he saw Deputy Alvarado park his patrol car behind him. He approached the Tahoe on the driver's side and Deputy Alvarado approached on the passenger's side. He said both the driver (later identified as Suspect Thompson) and the passenger (later identified as Suspect Cooper) provided identification.

He walked back to his patrol car in order to run a check of the suspects for wants and warrants. Both suspect's driver's histories indicated their licenses were suspended, and in need of verbal notice. He decided to serve both suspects with notice of their suspensions. Prior to issuing the notices, Deputy Alvarado advised him a burglary had occurred at a pharmacy around the corner on South Street. He asked Deputy Alvarado to have the passenger, Suspect Cooper, exit the car and to walk back to his location, which was the front of his patrol car.

As Deputy Alvarado stood beside the suspect's vehicle, he looked back at him (Mack) and motioned as if to have him (Mack) place Suspect Cooper in the backseat of his patrol car. He had Suspect Cooper walk back to left rear of his patrol car and had Suspect Cooper place his hands behind his back. When he grabbed hold of Cooper's hands, Cooper broke free from his grasp, and took off running north on Norwalk Boulevard out of view.

He ran to the front of Deputy Alvarado's patrol car, which he estimated to be four to five steps, then stopped. He said it was foggy further north, so he lost sight of Suspect Cooper. He heard Deputy Alvarado request assistance via his handheld radio. He also heard the suspect's vehicle engine start up. As he looked back, he saw Deputy Alvarado standing at the driver's side door, and the suspect's vehicle began to pull out toward Deputy Alvarado.

He heard Deputy Alvarado yell at Suspect Thompson to stop, then the Tahoe accelerated. He saw Deputy Alvarado raise his gun, then he heard two gunshots. He saw Deputy Alvarado retreating from the vehicle. He said the vehicle drove south on Norwalk Boulevard out of view. He estimated his distance from Deputy Alvarado during the shooting to be approximately fifteen feet. He said there was no one on the street during the shooting. He said he was behind Deputy Alvarado during the shooting, so there was no cross fire issue.

Deputy Mack was interviewed by Homicide Investigators Lowe and Hernandez on February 26, 2010. Refer to their supplementary report for details.

**IAB NOTE:** Refer to Exhibit A, Homicide Case Book, Page 28 Homicide Bureaus supplementary report. A copy of Deputy Macks's transcribed interviews submitted with this case file.

## **NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESSES:**

None

## **SUSPECT'S STATEMENTS:**

**Suspect Darren Thompson** was interviewed by Homicide Investigator Kevin Lowe on February 26, 2010, at approximately 1430 hours. The interview took place at LAC Harbor General Hospital. The interview was tape recorded and is summarized as follows;

Suspect Thompson said he was not trying to run over the deputy (Alvarado) when he accelerated away from the traffic stop and did not understand why he was shot. He told Investigator Lowe when he was initially pulled over, he stopped his car with the front wheels turned toward the curb. He said when he saw his "Buddy" (Suspect Cooper) run away from the deputy, he panicked. He said he turned on the car's engine and turned his steering wheel to the left (toward the deputy) to move the front tires away from the curb. As he did this, he saw the deputy raise his weapon and pointed it at his (Thompson's) head. Thompson said he accelerated his car away from the traffic stop and was shot by the deputy.

Investigator Lowe told Suspect Thompson the deputy believed he (Thompson) was turning the vehicle toward him and fired in self-defense. Suspect Thompson agreed the deputy could have perceived his (Thompson's) actions as an assault. Suspect Thompson said he drove toward his home in Los Angeles and was arrested near his residence. Suspect Thompson said he did not remember what happened to the stolen property from the pharmacy, because he was losing a lot of blood and was fading in and out from the gunshot wounds.

Suspect Thompson said he met "Tank" (Suspect Shawn Cooper) several months ago "On the streets." When Investigator Lowe asked Suspect Thompson about the burglary at the pharmacy, Thompson said he was with Suspect Cooper to make some extra money for his family. Investigator Lowe obtained Suspect Cooper's telephone number from Thompson's cell phone, with his permission.

**IAB NOTE:** Refer to Exhibit A, Homicide Case book, Pages 32 and 33 for Homicide Investigators interview with Suspect Thompson.

Suspect Shawn Cooper, was interviewed by Homicide Investigator Kevin Lowe via telephone, on February 26, 2010, at approximately 1615 hours. Investigator Lowe told Suspect Cooper he needed to turn himself in for the incident that occurred earlier in the day. Suspect Cooper replied by saying "Turn myself in for what, running from the police?" Investigator Lowe told Cooper there was evidence recovered from Suspect Thompson's car and from the pharmacy that tied him to the burglary at the pharmacy.

## **INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY**

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Suspect Cooper replied by telling Investigator Lowe the charge would be a second strike for him and he needed to get his affairs in order before he turned himself in. Suspect Cooper then abruptly ended the call.

On February 26, 2010, at approximately 1618 hours, Investigator Lowe again called Suspect Cooper via telephone. Suspect Cooper told Investigator Lowe he would turn himself in on Monday, March 1, 2010, after he obtained a lawyer, arranged bail money, and took care of some family issues.

On March 1, 2010, at approximately 1325 hours, Investigator Lowe called Suspect Cooper via telephone a third time. Investigator Lowe told Cooper the burglary case had been dropped off at the District Attorney's Office and it would be filed on March 3, 2010.

Suspect Cooper told Investigator Lowe he was the passenger in the suspect vehicle and he had made a "Dumb decision to ride-along." Suspect Cooper said he did not go into the pharmacy. He said he ran from the deputies, because of what had taken place at the pharmacy. Suspect Cooper continued by telling Investigator Lowe as he was running, he heard shouting from the deputies followed by gunshots.

Suspect Cooper said he laid on the ground when he heard the gunshots. He said he got up from the ground, he saw two deputies standing in the street and the vehicle (suspect's) speeding away from the deputies. Suspect Cooper concluded by telling Investigator Lowe he ran from the area and has not contacted Suspect Thompson since.

**IAB NOTE:** Refer to Exhibit A, Homicide Case book, Pages 33 Thru 36 for Homicide Investigator Lowe's three interviews with Suspect Cooper.

**MISCELLANEOUS SECTION:**

N/A